

dads know that the most important job they will ever have is to love their children—is to love their children. Churches and synagogues and mosques, who have these fantastic neighborhood healing programs, need to be unleashed in America through the faith-based initiative that I have proposed. You see, Government shouldn't fear faith. We ought to welcome faith and the power of faith to change people's lives in a very positive way.

You know, I was working the ropeline over there at the retirement plan ceremony, and I ran into a guy I met in Colfax, Iowa, from Teen Challenge. It was a fantastic experience during the course of the caucuses because it gave me a chance to explain to people what I meant when—how faith changes life. But I'll never forget the heroin addict from Chicago standing up and saying he was clean because a power greater than himself entered into his heart.

These kinds of programs Government can't create. But these kind of programs exist in America because of the goodness of America. And this society is changing, as we unleash this compassion, as people understand that part of being responsible is not only responsible for your own family but responsible for loving a neighbor. And it's taking place in the country, and it's so powerful and positive, that leads me to say that out of this evil is going to come a stronger, more decent, more humble society.

There's defining moments that take place in our history, and I think a defining moment was Flight 93, when people on an airplane, on cell phones, told their wives they loved them, said a prayer, and drove a plane into the ground to save somebody's life, to serve something greater than yourself. It's the ultimate testimony to the American character and the American spirit which defines this Nation for what it is, the greatest nation on the face of the Earth. And I am really proud to be its President.

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:54 a.m. in the Des Moines Room at the Marriott Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Katie Roth, whose husband Luke Roth was the President's Iowa State campaign director; Kathy Latham, wife of Representative Latham; Chuck Larson, Jr., chairman,

Republican Party of Iowa; former Iowa Governors Robert D. Ray and Terry Branstad; Mary Kramer, president, Iowa State Senate; Brent Siegrist, speaker, Iowa State House of Representatives; and Cal Eldred, former pitcher, Chicago White Sox. Representative Tom Latham is a candidate for reelection in Iowa's Fifth Congressional District.

Statement on Establishing the Klamath River Basin Federal Working Group

March 1, 2002

A prolonged drought and complex Federal and State legal issues have made for difficult times in the Klamath River Basin. Today I am establishing the Klamath River Basin Federal Working Group to address concerns raised by farmers, ranchers, fishermen, tribes, and others affected by these difficult conditions. I have directed Secretary Norton, Secretary Veneman, Secretary Evans, and CEQ Chairman Connaughton to advise me of the immediate and long-term actions necessary to enhance water quality and quantity and to address the other complex economic and natural resource issues in the Klamath River Basin. I have directed the Working Group to begin their efforts immediately. I want to thank Senator Gordon Smith and Congressman Greg Walden for their commitment to working together to find a lasting solution that meets the needs of the Klamath River Basin.

Memorandum on the Klamath River Basin Federal Working Group

March 1, 2002

Memorandum for the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, the Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality

Subject: Klamath River Basin Federal Working Group

The 2001 drought in the Klamath River Basin in Oregon and California, along with Federal legal requirements regarding water use, resulted in a scarcity of water available both for agricultural use and for maintenance

of water levels necessary to sustain threatened and endangered fish populations in the Klamath River Basin. Last year, the reduction in water available for irrigation caused severe economic consequences in the Basin. Ensuring that the farming community has access to sufficient water supply while complying with Federal environmental laws and respecting Tribal trust obligations will involve complex economic and legal issues that call for the immediate attention of Cabinet-level officials and others. Accordingly, I direct as follows:

1. *Establishment.* There is hereby established the Klamath River Basin Federal Working Group, which shall consist of the following officers of the Federal Government or other such officers designated by them: the Secretary of the Interior, who shall serve as Chair; the Secretary of Agriculture; the Secretary of Commerce; and the Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality. Any designee named by a member of the group shall be a full-time or permanent part-time officer or employee of the Federal Government. The Secretary of the Interior may invite the participation of other Federal officials as appropriate and shall preside at meetings of the Klamath River Basin Federal Working Group and shall direct its work.

2. *Mission.* The Klamath River Basin Federal Working Group shall advise the President on immediate steps and long-term solutions to enhance water quality and quantity and to address other complex issues in the Klamath River Basin. In formulating this advice, the Klamath River Basin Federal Working Group or its members are encouraged to seek input from stakeholders, including members of the farming and fishing communities; residents of the Basin; representatives of conservation, environmental, and water use organizations, and existing coordinating entities; the States of Oregon and California; local governments; and representatives of Klamath River Basin Tribal governments.

3. *Funding.* The Department of the Interior shall, to the extent permitted by law and consistent with the need for funding as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, make funds appropriated to the Department of the Interior available to support the administra-

tive costs of the Klamath River Basin Federal Working Group.

4. *Authority.* Advice is requested from the Klamath River Basin Federal Working Group pursuant to the Opinions Clause of Article II, Section 2 of the Constitution and other applicable constitutional authorities of the President.

5. *Termination.* The Klamath River Basin Federal Working Group shall terminate 18 months from the date of this memorandum, or at my direction, whichever occurs earlier.

George W. Bush

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

February 25

In the morning, the President had CIA and FBI briefings and met with the National Security Council.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael Alan Guhin for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as the U.S. Fissile Material Negotiator.

The President announced his intention to nominate Lawrence E. Butler to be Ambassador to the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The President announced his intention to nominate Robert Watson Cobb to be Inspector General of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

February 26

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Jean Chretien of Canada to discuss the President's recent travel to Asia, the Prime Minister's recent travel to Germany and Russia, cooperation against terrorism, and various U.S.-Canadian trade issues. The President also had a telephone conversation with Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia, concerning